



David Hutzelman for Governor

Candidate
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Free Texas

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On Education, Crime, Economy

Hutzelman Speaks Out

Government is not the solution - it's the problem. During my campaign, I have been pointing out that more taxes, more agencies, more regulations and more laws will not solve the problems we face in Texas today, they have to a large extent caused our problems. In the economy, in our personal lives and in education, I am making proposals to "free-up" the system by removing those artificial governmental barriers at all levels of society that prevent individual Texans from earning a living, running their own lives and controlling their childrens education.

Unemployment and Taxes

While the record level of unemployment in Texas is largely the result of bipartisan federal policies of deficit spending, inflation and high interest rates, there are steps

that the State government can and should take to alleviate unemployment.

- Return the 1.3 billion dollar State surplus to taxpayers by declaring a four month moratorium on sales tax collections and permanently lowering the sales tax to avoid future surpluses and reflect budget cuts from sunseting regulatory agencies. This money, back in the hands of consumers, will be spent in ways which will increase economic activity and employment opportunities.

- Repeal Sunday "blue laws" thereby opening another day of commercial activity and increasing jobs in the retailing industry.

- Repeal occupational licensing laws and sunset regulatory agencies which restrict unemployed workers from entering such fields as trucking, beauticians, day-care

operators, street vendors, taxi-drivers and paramedics. Professional Associations may require individuals to be certified according to their standards as a condition of membership, but should not be allowed to use the force of State laws to prohibit competition and keep consumer prices artificially high.

By permitting people to keep more of their earnings and allowing them to enter occupations of their choice, we can create more jobs, lower consumer prices and have a higher standard of living for all Texans.

Utility Rates

Soaring utility rates are another example of a problem which has been made worse by state regulations. New long distance telephone services, at half the cost of similar



David Hutzelman

services from the publicly regulated phone company, have suddenly appeared because the anti-competition regulations for the telecommunications industry have been repealed. **Con't on p. 3**

Ford gears up US Senator campaign

By MANUEL DAVIS
FREE TEXAS CORRESPONDENT

John E. Ford of Houston is providing a breath of fresh air in a race for U.S. Senate which is filled with mud-slinging between the Republican candidates.

The 39-year-old investment broker is challenging the federal government's practice of taxing people's incomes in return for regulating their lives.

"People can best spend their own money," Ford told the San Antonio League of Women Voters. "Only individuals, businesses, and voluntary organizations may properly have economic policies. I favor elimination of the income tax, freeing people to make their own choices. I favor an orderly phase-out of most government spending programs, except defense."

Lest people confuse Ford's position with that of his Republican opponent, the Libertarian makes clear what he means by "defense:"

"We can defend our nation best by defending our own territory and asking

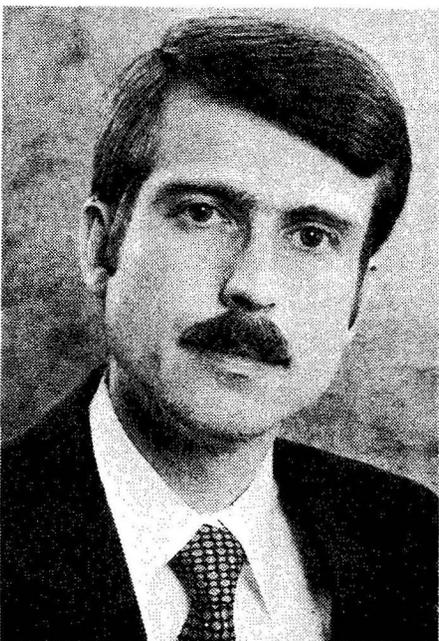
our wealthy allies to pay for their own defense. We can no longer afford to do otherwise. Only a volunteer armed forces can economically defend us without violating the rights of our young adults."

"The draft is morally wrong and economically unjustifiable. It's a tax on a few to "benefit" other groups. Also, it's a bailout for irresponsible foreign policy. When the government fails to get its way diplomatically it resorts to war," he explained.

Ford is not afraid to criticize sacred cows; not even the Social Security system escapes his notice. "My highest priority goes to allowing everyone to plan a more secure retirement income through private, guaranteed investments. I favor financing Social Security benefits earned up to now through sale of government property. Social Security taxes would be reduced, then eliminated."

"We can best cut unemployment by removing artificial barriers to employ-

Con't on p. 4



John Ford

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'Government is the problem'

Hutzelman spreads the word across Texas



The "Sunset Kid" rides again.

David Hutzelman earned that nickname in his 1980 race for Texas Railroad Commissioner, running on the promise that he would help abolish that agency when it comes up for sunset review in 1983. His campaign was so refreshing he gained endorsements from the Texas Observer, a state-wide public affairs newspaper, and The Daily Texan, student newspaper at the University of Texas at Austin, which has the 18th largest daily circulation in Texas. He received 87,000 votes, or 2.2 percent of the total.

Due to popular demand, Hutzelman is back on the campaign trail, this time running for governor.

Although he has to work for a living and cannot campaign full time, Hutzelman is running as active a campaign as possible, making several trips around the state to Austin, Amarillo, Corpus Christi, Dallas-Fort Worth, Lufkin, Midland-Odessa, San Antonio, Tyler and of course Houston, where he makes his home. He has had numerous fund-raisers which have generated several thousand dollars to spread the libertarian word.

He is being aided in his campaign by Allan Vogel, who himself ran for governor in 1978, and by Bob Sablatura, who is mainly in charge of campaign trips

and media contacts.

Hutzelman also depends on his wife Becky to keep track of calls and events. The Hutzelmans have two children, Laura Beth and Eric.

With 17 years' experience in the data processing field, he is employed as telecommunications manager for a Houston petrochemical company. He holds degrees in mathematics from Kenyon College and Stanford University. He served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force and taught at Florida State University.

Organizations to which he belongs include Toastmasters International, National Taxpayers Union and the Association for Rational Environmental Alternatives.

Hutzelman was interviewed by Free Texas correspondent Herbert Carstairs while enroute from Amarillo to Fort Worth.

Free Texas: Why are you running for governor?

Hutzelman: I'm running because I believe that government is not the solution, it's the problem. My opponents' solution to all of the problems are more bureaus, more regulations, more laws and more taxes.

FT: Could you give some specific examples of how government has caused these problems?

H: In the economy, two problems on most Texans' minds are unemployment and high utility rates. The problems have been caused, to a large extent, by a bad federal government policies of inflation, high interest rates and minimum wage laws.

However, the state government can and should take certain steps to alleviate the unemployment problem. The first thing the state should do is return the \$1.3 billion tax surplus by declaring a 4-month moratorium on the state sales tax until the surplus is used up. This money has been drained from the Texas economy, destroying many jobs in the process. We can increase employment by returning this money to the pocketbooks of Texas citizens who can then decide how best to spend it.

Another thing the state can do is

repeal occupational licensing laws which are designed to limit entry into job fields such as day care operators, taxi drivers, beauticians, and paramedics. With easier entry into the fields regulated by the state, more people, especially the economically disadvantaged, will be able to afford to go into business on their own. They can open a business to take care of their neighbors' children or serve meals or cut their neighbors' hair. Of course, I have no problem with a private association accrediting its members who meet its standards of training or pass competency tests or whatever. But, I do not believe that association should have the right to seek the government's help to protect its members from competition.

FT: How about utility rates?

H: I believe if we look at the telephone industry we can see where competition has played a major role in bringing long distance rates down. Recent competitors like MCI, Sprint and US Tel charge much lower rates than those offered by the Bell Companies. As a result, it has caused the Bell companies to become more cost conscious and efficient.

Even further competition can be encouraged by allowing cable TV and direct broadcast satellite companies into the telephone market. This should create a model for the deregulation of electrical power utilities. Thirteen cities in the US, including Lubbock, have allowed some form of competition. Rates in these cities average 15 to 20 percent less than surrounding locations that operate with government-granted monopolies.

FT: Aren't utility rates driven higher when companies have to duplicate their system of distribution?

H: No, the problem is that when you have a single company with guaranteed profits, there is simply no incentive for that company to be efficient. In that way, unsuccessful or risky business ventures like nuclear power are encouraged because the costs can be passed on directly to the consumer. Only a competitive marketplace can guarantee good management which will have the result of bringing utility rates down.

FT: Surely economics is not the only issue in your campaign. How has

government caused problems in our private lives?

H: Rising crime rates, shortage of police manpower and growing intrusions into our civil liberties in the form of wiretapping and prescription monitoring are the results of legislators passing laws designed to control people's behavior rather than protect people's rights.

FT: What's your solution?

H: To strengthen respect for the law and to encourage social tolerance, I advocate repeal of all victimless crime laws. Our scarce police resources should be used to combat real and violent crime rather than chasing into paraphernalia shops and adult bookstores. While I certainly would not in any way encourage these activities which I advocate decriminalizing, I am opposed to the creation of a police state for the purpose of regulating personal morality.

FT: What else are you discussing in your campaign?

H: There are a number of other issues such as education, prison overcrowding and the supply of water to various sections of Texas that I have been discussing as I travel across the state. I have been trying to bring to the voters an alternative to the policies of higher taxes and more government that my opponents advocate.



ONE EVENING, AT THE STALEY GOVERNOR'S MANSION ...

HEY MARK! IT'S COMMISSIONER GORGON ON THE FAT-PHONE! HE SAYS A TAX REVOLT IS THREATENING ALL THE BUREAUCRATS IN SPLITSVILLE!

HOLY BOSTON TEAPARTY! TO THE FAT-CAVE!

BY DAY, THEY ARE GOVERNOR BILL CLEMENTS AND HIS YOUTHFUL WART, MARK WHITE. BUT WHENEVER LIBERTY THREATENS THE STATIST QUO, THEY TRANSFORM INTO ...

FAT-MAN AND WHITEBOY, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

UH, I HATE TO TELL YOU THIS, FATMAN, BUT LAST SATURDAY NIGHT I GOT BOMBED OUT OF MY SKULL AND LOST THE FAT-MOBILE TO A G.M. DEALER IN A POKER GAME

SHORTLY... OKAY, YOU REVOLTING TAXPAYERS, THE JIG'S UP!

WHO THE HELL IS THAT CLOWN? HELLO, WE WON'T PAY!

YOU OUGHT TO KNOW! YOU ELECTED ME, FOOL! HA HA HA HA!

THAT'S TELLING HIM, FATMAN! GUSH!

ALL GOES WELL FOR THE DISMAL DUO, AS THE TAX REVOLTERS FALL ONE BY ONE TO OUR PROTAGONISTS' FLYING FISTS AND FEET. BUT THEN ...

END OF THE LINE, FATMAN! YANK!

HEY, NOBODY STOPS ME! I'M THE GOVERNOR! AND IF I LOOSE THE NEXT ELECTION WHITEBOY WILL BE THE GOVERNOR, SO WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT...

...MAKE? UH-OH!

HOLY HIGH NOON! IT'S THE SUNSET KID!

YOUR FREEDOM-WRECKING DAYS ARE OVER!

CAN FATMAN AND WHITEBOY ESCAPE UTTER HUMILIATION BY THIS MIDDLE-CLASS RUFFIAN? LET'S HOPE NOT! STAY TUNED!!!

Harrison leads pack

Libertarian avalanche in El Paso

By STEWART LaJOIE
FREE TEXAS CORRESPONDENT

Brad Harrison, candidate for El Paso County Judge, kicked off a serious campaign with a courthouse news conference Sept. 20 covered by all the area news media.

Harrison is the sole opponent to a power-hungry Democrat who is not well liked by elements of his own party. Thus he has received support from unexpected "establishment" quarters.

John McDivitt, candidate for county commissioner, is tying his campaign closely to Harrison. He is in a tight three-way race and could pull a major upset along with Harrison if funding develops early enough in the campaign.

Other candidates in El Paso are also running active campaigns although none are considered as having the same chances as Harrison and McDivitt.

At the top of the local slate is Cathy McDivitt, who is again running for Congress from the 16th District. In 1980 she polled over 19,000 votes against an eight-term incumbent and had the most successful Libertarian congressional campaign in the nation.

This year the race is wide open due to the retirement of the incumbent and the race is considered extremely close. Both Republican and Democratic polls show Cathy McDivitt to be the balance of power at this point in the campaign.

Another active campaign is that of Ken Royer, an El Paso stockbroker, who is seeking the 74th District seat in the Texas House of Representatives. His only opponent is the incumbent Democrat who narrowly survived the May primary.

Ken, who is 27 and an eight-year Army veteran, is considered a dark horse in the race but since his opponent is not particularly well-liked there is a real chance for an upset there.

In the 71st District legislative race Cindy Wilke is carrying the Libertarian standard. This is essentially a new district and there is no incumbent in this three-way race. Cindy, a 24-year-old technical writer, is running a low key campaign but since this race is considered close she will most likely be the difference. Cindy has authored several news releases and ghost writes for other Libertarian candidates.

The 73rd District race is another Liber-

tarian vs. Democrat contest. Ed Walsh, who is running a moderately active campaign against a popular woman incumbent is given very little chance to win but could poll impressive percentages.

In Districts 70 and 72 our candidates are both line holders. Herta Chafer and Mary Catherine Hendrix are both filling out the media's questionnaires and responding to written requests for information but neither is campaigning actively.

Both races are three-way contests with an incumbent Republican in the 70th District and an incumbent Democrat in the 72nd District. Both incumbents are considered safe but we may be the balance of power in the 70th District if local anti-Blue law crusader Mickey Robbins gets heavily involved in the Chafer effort as appears likely at this time.

In the State Senate race in District 29 David Bowie is taking on a 10-year incumbent Democrat who is considered safe.

No Republican is in the race due to Governor Clements making it clear to local Republicans that he liked this Democrat. Dave could poll an impressive number of votes in this race.

The remaining county races for County Clerk, County Treasurer and District Clerk are all two-way races with Libertarians challenging incumbent Democrats.

The exception is the District Clerk's race, where the incumbent is retiring so his assistant is running instead. Our candidates Cheyenne Krel (County Clerk), Todd Darby (County Treasurer) and Lory Redue (District Clerk) are basically responding to media requests and hoping for a big vote for County Judge candidate Brad Harrison to favorably affect their vote totals.

Unfortunately, our candidate in the District Clerk's race could have been a major factor in the race if the Democratic primary result had been different; a popular woman won in a race against four men and is considered a shoo-in.

All in all, El Paso Libertarians are looking ahead to November with a lot of expectation and excitement. At worst, we have clearly established ourselves as a serious factor in local politics and at best we may elect a County Judge and possibly a commissioner and if we are extremely fortunate, even a state representative.

Freeman makes bid for Lt. Gov.

By SCOTT BIESER
FREE TEXAS EDITOR

The race for lieutenant governor resembles the gubernatorial contest in many ways. Both the Democrat and Republican candidates are hard-core conservatives with strong ties to the state's corporate elite, while advocates for civil liberties and alternatives in education have their only friend in the Libertarian Party.

Laurel Kay Freeman, 30, of Austin, is a registered nurse and a long-time libertarian who is running for lieutenant governor "to provide people with an alternative to vote for in as much as there is not much difference between the other candidates.

Freeman said she is concentrating her campaign on civil liberties issues, alternative education and alternative health care.

"We're for the repeal of victimless crime laws," she said. "If we focused our resources on dealing with crimes that have victims we wouldn't have overcrowded prisons and a backed-up court system. Then people could get swift and sure justice.

"We don't consider it a function of the state to try to direct people's lives so long as what they're doing is among consenting adults and no one else is having their right to run their own lives interfered with," she explained.

As the mother of a three-year-old girl, Leela, Freeman is challenging the state's public education establishment.

"There's a lot of unhappiness and discontent with the public school system. As it is now private schools are restricted to those who can afford to support the public school system and

pay private school tuition at the same time," she said.

"A voucher system would allow parents more freedom of choice in education and I think freedom of choice is the American way," she added.

Even though Freeman is employed in the allopathic medical establishment, she believes people should be free to choose alternatives in "holistic" health and thus she opposes the Medical Practices Act and any laws which give one type of health care a monopoly.

Freeman has recently moved with her husband and daughter to a rural home near Cedar Creek, from which she commutes to work in an Austin private hospital.

She ran for Travis County Commissioner in 1980 and received approximately 18 percent of the vote.



Laurel Kay Freeman

Hutzelman

Continued from p. 1

Similar improvements can be made in the electric power industry. Already twenty-three cities in the United States, including Lubbock, allow consumers to choose between competing power companies. Studies have shown that electric rates in these areas are fifteen to twenty percent lower than comparable surrounding areas. With an exclusive monopoly franchise from the government, utility companies have absolutely no incentive to be efficient or innovative. They engage in wasteful business practices and risky, unproven nuclear technology because they know they can pass these costs on to consumers who have no choice but to pay.

Utilities are not creations of the free-market; they are more like extensions of the government, hiding their mismanagement behind a wall of government regulations and guaranteed profits. They have no place in a free society and the commissions which protect them should be eliminated. Appointing "consumer advocates" to regulatory agencies will not solve these

problems. By legislating lower rates, the utility companies will simply take their "profits" off the top leaving inadequate funds for repair and installation services which would rapidly deteriorate.

Only by encouraging competition, with private businesses risking their own capital in new technology, can we hope to permanently lower utility rates. As John Bryson, head of the California Public Utilities Commission, has stated, "In the long run a deregulated market would force rigorous decisions on the most cost-effective means of supplying electricity needs."

Crime and Civil Liberties

Rising crime rates, a shortage of police resources, and growing threats to our civil liberties are problems that are resulting from a growing amount of state legislation designed to regulate individuals' behavior rather than protect their rights.

Wiretapping and prescription monitoring should be repealed as unwarranted violations of our traditional concepts of individual privacy. Drug regulation, which denies terminally ill patients the

freedom to try unproven cures and which encourages the consumption of blackmarket drugs of unknown quality, needs to be returned to the medical community. As in Great Britain, drug abuse should be a medical concern and not a legal one. Educational efforts to inform the public of the dangers of drug abuse should be emphasized.

Scarce police resources should be focused on violent crimes against persons and property rather than used to patrol bingo games, adult book stores and paraphernalia shops. All peaceful behavior which does not violate the rights of others should be decriminalized. While not wanting to encourage or promote irresponsible activities, we must not concede to vocal pressure groups the public regulation of personal morality.

Meaningful restitution should be established as a part of the criminal justice systems. Criminals must pay, and they must pay the victims directly to compensate them for damages caused. The prison system should be structured to allow working inmates to support the costs of their detention and assume liability for their unlawful acts.

Education

Current problems of low test scores, increasing school violence and a collection of moral/cultural issues such as prayer in school, evolution vs. creationism, bilingual instruction, ethnic history and even dress codes can not be solved by further government programs or controls. I believe that it is very unjust to tax parents and compel them to send their children to schools which do not teach personal values that parents support. As a first step to encourage educational diversity that reflects the child's uniqueness and the parents' values, I propose to redirect current state school tax receipts, which now go to the school district, directly to the parents in the form of an educational voucher. This voucher, worth approximately \$2,000 per year, can be used at a school of the parents' choice: a public school, a Christian school, a vocational school etc. . . . In this way we can encourage the creation of private affordable educational services which reflect the democratic and pluralistic nature of our society.

Con't on p. 5

The State of Texas is not Texas Inc.

I am sure that anyone who has seen the Governor's report on public television is well aware of how Bill Clements left home for the oilfields at age 17 and rose to become chairman of an international drilling company. Certainly this is an exemplary record not atypical of many independent and industrious Texans who have contributed to and shared in the economic growth of Texas. But success-driven businessmen often fail to realize the important and fundamental distinctions between economic institutions and government. Their business strengths, when carried to extreme in government, become serious liabilities.

A business or corporation is a voluntary association. It exists in an environment with similar competing associations and has a single limited economic objective - normally profits. Government on the other hand exists on a non-voluntary basis, holds a monopoly of physical force over its citizens, and should serve as a framework within which individuals, associations, and corporations can peacefully coexist. This concern for a framework of rules or rights, rather than specific results, is the basis for government. Businessmen, with their basic concern for results often fail to appreciate the concept of rights and civil liberties.

Tax Surplus Vs. Profit

Governor Clements, being results-oriented, has been gloating over his tax surplus as if it were some kind of profit. Four years ago he promised "to return to Texas taxpayers \$1

billion taxes over the next biennium." (*Houston Post*, Dec. 14, 1978). Either he has forgotten his promise or he has lost sight of the distinction between business and government.

Governor Clements needs to understand that **the State of Texas is not Texas Incorporated**. He needs to realize that naturally independent Texans don't need to be managed; they need to be respected and allowed to run their own lives. He needs to realize that his tax surplus, far from being some sort of governmental profit, has drained a billion dollars from the Texas economy, destroying many jobs and other economic opportunities when they are badly needed. I believe the surplus should be immediately returned to the taxpayers before Governor Clements and the legislature decide to re-invest it in new government programs and agencies.

Obsession With Planning

Another troublesome aspect of some executives turned politicians is their obsession with planning - usually planning other peoples lives. Governor Clements prides himself on introducing Management by Objective to the State and setting up a myriad of planning commissions, highlighted by his Texas 2000 Program. I wonder how Governor Clements expects us to have any confidence in his ability to plan the future of Texas for the year 2000 when he has overcollected taxes by one billion dollars and has had to call two special sessions of the legislature just to get us through 1982. This is not exactly a planning

record to be proud of.

The main deficiency with government planning is that it is extremely inflexible, unresponsive and leads to false expectations. Planned political solutions seldom change with changing conditions since the solutions have become bound up with political deals, trade-offs, and compromises. Nuclear Power, the Synthetic Fuel program, and the Houston Metropolitan Transportation Authority are classic examples of government planning. Results oriented planning has a proper role in the private marketplace where consumers can vote every day with their pocketbook, sending a message that directly and speedily influences business plans.

Governor Clements obsession with government planning has, no doubt, impacted his failure to deliver on another of his major promises of four years ago: "I will reduce the state bureaucracy by 25,000 employees, and it will not be difficult to do." (*Dallas Times-Herald*, Oct. 22, 1978).

Economic Regulation

One final shortcoming of some corporate politicians is their inconsistent and hypocritical attitude toward economic regulation. Healthy competition, as businessmen frequently testify, is a phenomenon that exists in other industries but destructive dog-eat-

dog competition is ruining their own industry and therefore some government subsidy or protection is needed to preserve the public interest.

How quickly Governor Clements attitude toward energy regulation has changed. Back in 1978 when the Department of Energy was controlled by damned Yankees and consumer advocates it was the bane of the petroleum industry. But now, with a Republican president and an opportunity for Governor Clements to strongly influence the DOE for his own purposes, he says it's not such a bad agency after all and should be strengthened, not abolished. No doubt Governor has in mind using the DOE to limit cheap foreign oil imports should the price drop below what Texas oilmen want, just as Texas governors did through the Railroad Commission and Interstate Oil Compact Commission several decades earlier.

I am not convinced that successful businessmen always make good government officials. While obviously successful working within the system they sometimes tend to misunderstand the nature and proper role of government itself. On basis of his record I believe it is time for the voters of Texas to realize that Governor Clements, talents and abilities are more appropriate to the business world than to government.

-- David Hutzelman

Ford - US Senate

Con't from p. 1

ment of entry-level workers, especially women, racial minorities and young people. We can allow employers and employees to match themselves up on a purely voluntary basis. Barriers to hiring, such as minimum wage laws, bureaucratic red tape, the Davis-Bacon Act, and other restrictive labor laws, can be eliminated," he said.

"Entry into business ownership can be made much easier for the poor by removing regulations and red tape which serve to protect established businesses and government monopolies from competition, at the expense of those who

cannot afford expensive legal representation and legislative battles."

To help spread the Libertarian word Ford is planning to produce and circulate radio ads "in the Houston area definitely and as many other places as we can pay for."

He is also appearing on a variety of radio talk shows and is scheduled to debate the Brand X candidates on KERA-TV in Dallas, Oct. 23.

Ford is chairman of SHIFT, a group promoting private enterprise solutions to Houston's transit problems. He is a Houston Jaycees past president and a former teacher.

Australian LP leader visits Lone Star Libertarians

By SCOTT BIESER
FREE TEXAS EDITOR

The president of the Libertarian Party of Australia exchanged knowledge with Texas Libertarians during this visit to the Sept. 11 candidates' workshop in Austin.

"It's tremendous to see such a live-wire group of people getting into the trade of spreading the libertarian philosophy," said Bill Forster, who was in Texas on his way home from the Libertarian International Conference in Zurich, Switzerland.

Forster said he learned during the conference that "lines of communication have to be improved on an international basis. We can learn from each other."

The libertarian electoral movement in Australia is divided into two groups, the Libertarian Party and the Progress Party, he said. The LP is active in the southern part of Australia while the Progress Party, formerly the Workers Party, is organized in the northern areas.

Forster said the two parties do not compete with one another since they are in separate geographic regions. However, he is working

to bring the two parties together under one name.

Australia has a parliamentary form of government with the country divided into 75 "electorates," from which representatives to the bicameral parliament are elected.

The next national election is expected to be called in November 1982 and the two libertarian parties plan to run 20-25 candidates, Forster said.

The population of Australia is roughly equal to Texas' and the two parties have a combined active membership of around 19,000, he said. "The Australian people are very indoctrinated in the welfare way, (so there is) a very small chance of us electing candidates soon."

Forster and his wife Jean sat through the executive committee meeting in the morning as well as the afternoon candidates' workshop and observed that the Texas Libertarians are a real motivated group of people. You have a lot of potential and a lot of promise."

The Forsters plan to stop in Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Hawaii before continuing their journey home.

Candidates

From p. 7

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County Treasurer
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County Commissioner
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Editor: Scott Bieser

Libertarian Party of Texas Platform

The following is a summary of the Libertarian Party of Texas Platform. It is not a complete list of planks but covers a broad range of topics. The complete platform may be obtained by contacting the party at P.O. Box 56426, Houston, TX 77256. A copy of the national Libertarian Party platform may be obtained by writing the national party at 2139 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20007.

Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.

We hold that all individuals have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual: namely, (1) the right to life — accordingly we support the prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action — accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property — accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders; and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

Individual Rights and Civil Order

No conflict exists between civil order and individual rights. Both concepts are based on the same fundamental principles: that no individual, group, or government may initiate force against any other individual's rights.

Members of the Libertarian Party do not necessarily advocate or condone any of the practices our policies would make legal . . . The wisdom of any course of peaceful action is a matter for the acting individual to decide. Personal responsibility is discouraged by society routinely denying people the opportunity to exercise it.

Hutzelman

Continued from p. 3

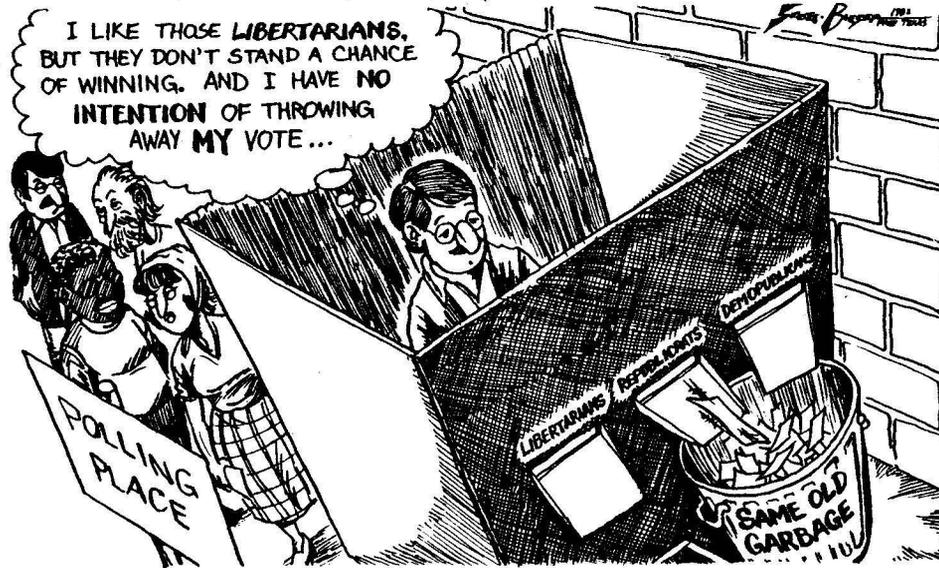
On those few occasions when my opponents from the older parties do talk about issues, they offer more of the same tired old solutions which are not working now. As I have said before, we do not need more agencies, or more personnel to run our lives for us.

We need more economic and personal freedom. We need to let the market-place work and to treat people like adults. We need to provide a prosperous and tolerant climate for future generations of Texans based on individual rights,

(W)e favor . . . the abolition of laws which create crimes without victims (including) current Texas laws prohibiting the possession, use, or sale of alcoholic beverages, marijuana and other drugs, and so-called drug paraphernalia.

(W)e support the right of every individual to protect his or her life, family, home or property by any means necessary, including deadly force. We call for the repeal of laws prohibiting the carrying of weapons.

We call for the amendment of the Texas Constitution to allow an appropriate number of voters, upon petition, to have placed upon



the ballot in the following general election binding initiatives and referenda, pertaining either to legislative or Constitutional provisions, which would become effective upon voter approval. We call for the strengthening of the right of citizens to recall all elected officials.

Trade and the Economy

Because each person has the right to offer goods and services to others on the free market, and because government interference can only harm such free activity, we oppose all intervention by government into the area of economics. The only proper role of existing governments in the economic realm is to protect property rights, adjudicate disputes, and provide a legal framework in which voluntary trade is protected. We believe that the consumer is best served by a free market open to all entrants.

We oppose efforts to forcibly redistribute wealth or forcibly manage trade. Government manipulation of the economy creates an entrenched privileged class — those with access to tax money — and an exploited class — those who are net taxpayers.

(T)axation is the forcible seizure of property to support government, and as such is a clear violation of individual rights. We forthrightly proclaim our opposition to taxation in any form and our desire to see its speedy end.

We support efforts to impose Constitutional limits on federal, state and local taxation. We support (as interim measures) HR-23, the Liberty Amendment (which re-

individual effort, individual compassion and individual responsibility. I believe that this type of society best exemplifies the concepts and the constitution upon which our country was founded.

Libertarian Party

The National Libertarian Party, founded in 1971, is the third largest and fastest growing political party in the United States. This year the party will be running nearly 1000 candidates including twenty-one gubernatorial candidates. This is the largest political effort by a new party in the U.S. since the 1930's.

The Libertarian Party of Texas,

peals the federal income tax) and HR-350, a constitutional amendment to require a balanced budget.

We are opposed to a state income tax (and the imposition of a state corporate profits tax. We call for the immediate repeal of the retail sales tax, which is the most regressive tax upon the poor, and which forces merchants to be tax collectors. We call for the immediate repeal of all state gasoline taxes.

We call for the abolition of the Texas Railroad Commission and the termination of all its functions. We call for the abolition of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

(W)e urge abolition of the Texas Public Utilities Commission. We further urge repeal of all laws granting exclusive franchises or otherwise limiting entry into the utilities market by new companies and organizations.

We support the abolition of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners and the repeal of the Medical Practices Act.

Domestic Ills

Current problems in such areas as education, energy, pollution, health care delivery, decaying cities and poverty are not solved, but are primarily caused or contributed to by government. The welfare state, supposedly designed to aid the poor, is in reality a growing burden on all people, and injures, rather than benefits, the poor themselves.

Education, like most services, can best be provided by the private sector. Poor and middle income Texans are effectively denied freedom of choice in education because they are taxed to support the government schools and cannot afford to pay twice for the same service. As interim legislation, we support a voucher system or tax credits which will give lower and middle people more choice in education.

(In the government school system) decisions which should be voluntary and private, such as prayer, busing, sex education, evolution, etc., are needlessly politicized and serve only to divide people into shrill, conflicting special interest groups. Therefore, our ultimate goal is to completely transfer education to the private sector and abolish education by

first on the ballot in 1980, will be running 122 candidates at the federal, state and local level in Texas this year. This includes all statewide non-judicial contests and twenty-five of twenty-seven U.S. Congressional races.

Since only 20% of the registered voters in Texas participated in the Democratic or Republican primaries this year, there is ample evidence that voters are looking for alternatives. The Libertarian Party offers an alternative array of innovative solutions and programs based on a philosophy of lower taxes, less government and more personal freedom.

government. We oppose laws compelling attendance or dictating educational standards. We support the repeal of all existing state regulations concerning local schools, including teacher certification, textbook approval, and curriculum requirements. We support the abolition of the State Board of Education and the State Textbook Committee.

We support an immediate end to all government occupational licensing. We call for the abolition of all state and local agencies, boards, bureaus and commissions which license, regulate or restrict in any way the entrance into or practice of any occupation by any person.

(T)ransportation is a private function. (W)e should remove all restrictions preventing the functioning of private intra-city bus companies, vanpools and jitney services. We also would eliminate laws which have as their purpose reducing the number of taxi cabs.

We are opposed to all coercive measures for population control. Accordingly, we oppose any laws or other governmental actions to compel, foster or encourage abortion, sterilization, or birth control. We likewise oppose any laws or other government actions to prohibit, restrict, or discourage voluntary abortion, sterilization or birth control. We call for elimination of special tax burdens on single people or couples with few or no children.

We call for all government employees in all public contacts during the performance of their duties to be required to identify themselves as to who they are and whom they represent, and further that all government employees be required to comply with the same laws that apply to private citizens.

Foreign Affairs

American foreign policy should seek an America at peace with the world and the defense against attack from abroad of the lives, liberty and property of the American people on American soil. Provision of such defense must respect the individual rights of people everywhere.

The principle of non-intervention should guide relationships between governments. The United States government should return to the historic libertarian tradition of avoiding entangling alliances, abstaining totally from foreign quarrels and imperialist adventures, and recognizing the right of unrestricted trade, travel and immigration.

(W)e call for an immediate end to any and all economic sanctions, embargoes or boycotts on the part of the U.S. government against any nation which has committed no overt acts of hostility against the United States.

Omissions

Our silence about any other particular government law, regulation, ordinance, directive, edict, control, regulatory agency, activity or machinations should not be construed to imply approval.

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Libertarians Fastest Growing Party

It is becoming apparent that the 1980's will prove to be a decade of major political realignments. According to the Washington editor of *Politics Today* magazine, "Various recent surveys have indicated that, if any trend in opinion is evident, it's toward libertarianism -- the philosophy that argues against government intervention and for personal rights." It's not beyond the bounds of possibility that the Libertarian Party could become one of the parties of tomorrow.

More and more Americans are giving their support to the LP, because they realize that it is the only consistently pro-freedom party. They understand that their own future liberty may well depend on the Libertarian Party's success. New political parties aren't "supposed" to get bigger and more successful. But that's exactly what the Libertarian Party has been doing, year after year.

In 1980, the Libertarian presidential candidate Ed Clark received nearly one million votes -- more than any other alternative candidate in this century who wasn't previously a nationally known political figure. That same year the LP got on the ballot in all 50 states -- the first time since 1916 that a third party succeeded in achieving universal ballot status.

In its short history, the LP has already elected mayors, state representatives, local commissioners, school board members and city council members throughout the country. From Alaska to Arizona, from Wisconsin to Washington, D.C., from California to South Carolina, and from Montana to Texas, elected Liber-

tarians are addressing fundamental issues that conventional politicians refuse to face, while offering innovative, voluntary, practical solutions to government-created problems.

In Texas, LP campaigns are winning new recognition and support. In 1981, three Libertarians -- Honey Lanham, Jeff Calvert, and Bill Fraser -- were elected to the Harris County School Board in Houston, garnering up to 65 percent of the vote. Their campaign called for immediate repeal of a recent 41 percent tax increase, elimination of duplicate government services, and the "sunsetting" of the school board

by the Texas Legislature. In 1980, LP Railroad Commissioner candidate David Hutzelman, campaigning for energy and transit deregulation and calling for abolition of the Texas Railroad Commission, received almost 90,000 votes -- winning the endorsement of both the *Texas Observer* and the *Daily Texan* newspaper.

The Libertarian Party has become America's fastest-growing party because it is bringing together a new coalition of taxpayers, consumers, and workers, small businessmen and women, oppressed minorities and that most oppressed minority of all:

the individual. LP activists attribute their phenomenal growth to their ability to attract support from all parts of the old political spectrum: from former Democrats and Republicans, former liberals and conservatives and from those millions of Americans who never saw anything worthwhile in politics until the Libertarian Party was formed.

Libertarians are at work in hundreds of Texas communities, laying the foundation for a real grassroots assault on the bankrupt two party monopoly and the failed policies of Big Government.

Vote Libertarian

Don't Throw Your Vote Away!

by Mike Grossberg

As November 2nd draws closer, thousands of Texas voters who are disillusioned by Governor Bill Clements and Attorney General Mark White must decide whether or not to cast a vote for David Hutzelman - a third party candidate. The common misunderstanding is that a vote cast for a third party candidate is a wasted vote. The fact is, however, that if you want more freedom and less government, it's a waste of your vote to cast it for anyone other than a Libertarian. Elections are not horse races. The purpose of casting your vote is not to "back the winner", but to influence public policy. Your vote is an ethical statement supporting the candidate and the political party whose views are closest to your own.

You should vote your principles -- that's the only way to avoid wasting your vote on the "lesser of two evils".

A vote for a Democrat or Republican is an endorsement not only of that candidate, but also of the policies of his party. By contrast, a vote for a Libertarian is a strong declaration of disagreement with the political status quo. Your Libertarian vote tells whomever is elected that you want the kind of basic reforms that only the Libertarian Party is talking about. It's the only vote that counts if you're fed up with coercive government and want to record your desire for fundamental social change.

If a third party succeeds in holding the balance of power -- as many Libertarian candidates began to do in 1978 and 1980 -- its effective

influence can even surpass that of larger parties. Many third party movements in American history have put pressure on the older parties to adopt their issues and implement their platforms. "In a remarkable number of instances, third parties marked out in advance the course that later on the nation was to follow," observed historian John Hicks. "The supporter of third party tickets need not worry, therefore, when he is told, as he surely will be told, that he is 'throwing his vote away'. A backward glance through American history would seem to indicate that this kind of vote is after all probably the most powerful vote that has ever been cast." If history is any guide, the Libertarian Party will continue to have an influence far beyond its numbers.

Education

Freedom of Choice

According to recent test scores this may be the first generation of Texans to emerge from the public school system less educated than their parents. In the face of this poor academic performance, parents, who are paying the bills for education, have virtually no control over the content of their child's education. Many parents are justifiably upset about paying school taxes and being forced to send their children to "learn" values which the parents may not endorse. Issues such as prayer in school, sex education, evolution vs. creationism and bilingual instruction cannot be resolved when each taxpayer tries to exert control over the curriculum.

What is needed to resolve this problem is a system that treats parents as consumers and allows them a choice of educational services. Such services today are available only to those who can manage to pay taxes and the cost of alternative education.

Public schools in Texas are becoming less responsive to parents input. As the size of school districts increase through consolidation the number of school districts in Texas has decreased from 1539 in 1960 to 1099 in 1980. This centralization of control, remote from the parents, makes problems worse.

When pressed by parents for reforms, teachers pass off problems to principals, principals claim that local school boards make the decisions, school board members say state regulations and agencies set policy and curriculum and state regulators say the federal government and courts are controlling education. Clearly in a system where everybody is responsible, nobody is responsible and parents and students alike are the ultimate losers.

Teachers salaries are another problem in the current system. Current state administration of

teachers salaries rewards length of service, academic degrees and coaching athletics rather than demonstrated results and performance in the classroom. With an educational market which treats parents as consumers, those teachers offering a superior record of results or proficiency in highly competitive technical fields will command premium salaries. Ineffective or incompetent workers will be weeded out of the system as they are in any other consumer oriented profession.

Analyzing 1980-81 educational expenditures and test scores in Texas leads to some surprising conclusions. Of the eight largest school districts in Texas, Ysleta, near El Paso has the lowest annual per pupil expenditure (\$1319) and the highest pupil/teacher ratio. However Ysleta's test scores average almost 30% higher than Dallas, which spends \$2349 per pupil and has one of the lowest pupil/teacher ratios in the state. Evidently there is more involved in educational quality than money.

The only way to resolve these problems is to work to eliminate the unresponsive government monopoly in education. As a first step in the

task I am proposing to redirect current state school tax receipts to parents of students in the form of an educational "voucher". This voucher worth approximately \$2000 can be used by the parents at a school of their choice; the public school, a religious school, a vocational school, etc. This systems would provide affordable private alternatives and best reflect the democratic and pluralistic nature of Texas today.

Educational freedom is intimately related to freedom of speech and freedom of religion because it involves both these traditional rights. Just as we would rightly question the government publishing 90% of the books and newspapers in Texas, so should we question their control of a similar percentage of the educational system. To facilitate more alternatives and parental control I advocate a voucher system, and a sales tax exemption for books and school supplies. With such a program we can begin to provide educational services which reflect the child's uniqueness and the parents values. With such a program we can begin to return educational freedom to all Texans.

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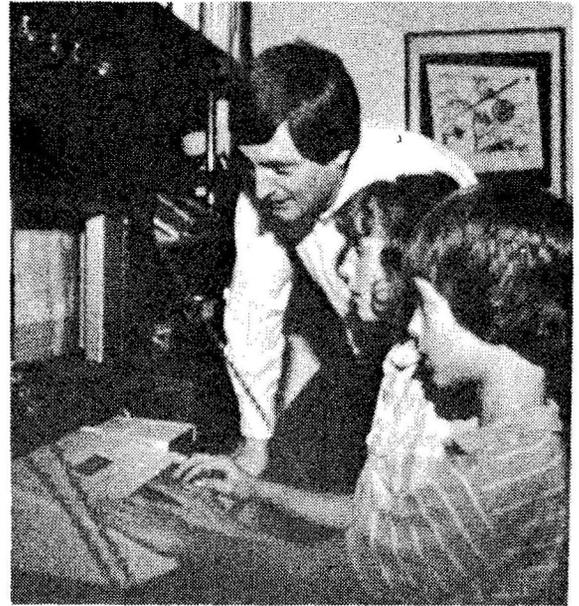
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Government is not the solution, it's the problem. Many of the problems we face in Texas today are the results of the government trying to solve problems in the past. In our economy, in our educational system and in the our private lives we must stop the growing intrusion by government. David Hutzelman is offering the voters of Texas an alternative. He needs your help!

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